

NEWPORT NEWS GETS CONTRACT FOR BATTLESHIP

Navy Department Decides to
Accept Bid For Con-
struction of the
Texas.

WORK ALREADY ACTUALLY UNDERWAY AT SHIPYARD

News of Government's Favorable
Action Quickly Circulates Through
City, Much to the Public's Gratifi-
cation—Formal Signing Only Thing
Lacking—Still After the New York,
With Prospects Bright.

Information was received here yesterday evening from Washington that the navy department has awarded the contract for the construction of the 27,000-ton battleship Texas to the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Company, which was the only bidder on the vessel when tenders for her construction were opened on December 1.

While no official information to that effect was obtainable last night, it is understood that the navy department has not yet decided upon the type of engines which are to be installed in the Texas. Until that decision is reached no announcement as to which of the four bids submitted by the local yard will be accepted can be made, and the contract will not be actually signed, but it is reliably reported that the department is considering only the reciprocating and Curtis turbine types for the ship and that in all probability the latter type will be decided upon. The tender of the company on a ship with Curtis turbines was \$5,790,000.

Disposes of Doubts.
Coming as it did upon the heels of a report circulated yesterday morning that work on the Texas had suddenly been stopped at the yard, the news that the contract actually had been awarded the yard yesterday was particularly gratifying. Following the announcement that the local yard was the only bidder on the Texas doubt as to whether or not the yard would be awarded the contract was entertained by a number of people. And then when the local yard stepped in and offered to build the New York for nearly \$2,000,000 less than she can be constructed in a navy yard and Secretary Meyer referred the matter to congress, many feared that the awarding of the contract for the Texas would be held up for several months or more.

Reports that the contract had been awarded were in circulation here in the afternoon and night and a number of business men and others who heard the reports called the Daily Press by telephone to get official confirmation.

Post On His Way Home.
General Manager Walter A. Post, of the shipyard, who has been in Washington for the past week conferring with officials of the navy department relative to the contract, will return home this morning. Mr. Post left the capital city yesterday evening.

Work on the Texas will begin at the shipyard in earnest tomorrow and a large number of additional men probably will be taken on at the plant in the immediate future. Work on the other two ships contracts for which have been received this month also is being started at the plant and there is an abundance of work on hand.

Still After the New York.
With one battleship contract "in its pocket," the local yard is now making a strenuous fight to land the contract for the battleship New York. That the New York will be built at a private yard is almost a foregone conclusion, now for a special dispatch to the New York Herald says that Mr. Fitzgerald will not make a fight for the \$1,500,000 appropriation which Secretary Meyer declares will be necessary for the building of the New York at the Brooklyn navy yard.

Congressman Fitzgerald is "the staunchest champion of the government-built battleship and if he has concluded, as it is said he has, that he cannot hope to get congress to appropriate that extra million and one-half it is practically certain that no fight for the appropriation will be made in congress.

The matter is now in the hands of the house committee on naval affairs and the belief is expressed in some quarters that the committee will recommend to congress that the act directing that the New York be built

in a navy yard be repealed and an act authorizing her construction by a private yard be passed.
If bids from the New York are invited from private yards the Newport News Company will go after the ship. And there is every reason in the world to believe that the contract will be brought to Newport News.

DESPERATE RACE MADE.

BY VIRGINIANS TO WED
Man of 65 Elopes With Girl of 16 and
Drives All Night to Have
"Knot Tied."

(By Associated Press.)
BRISTOL, TENN., Dec. 17.—Thomas F. Hamm, aged 65, and Miss Phoebe Jane Adams, aged 16, eloped last evening from Grayson county, Va., and drove all night in an open buggy, exposed to ice and snow, to Bristol, where they were married at an early hour today. During the drive of 30 miles over the mountains, Miss Adams was dumbed by cold and was barely able to stand while the ceremony was being performed. She took to her bed immediately, complaining of severe pains in her side due to the chill. She is being nursed by her fatherly husband.

WOULD BAR HIS WIFE.

Richmond Man Gets Injunction to
Keep Her from Home.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 17.—Because he declares he is afraid of his wife, and is not physically able to defend himself against her, Solomon Hahn procured an injunction from Judge Grianan in the City Chancery Court today restraining Mrs. Hahn from staying at her husband's house or from entering his place of business or from interfering or threatening him in any manner whatsoever.
The injunction will remain in force until January 17, 1911, at which time proceedings will be begun for a limited divorce. Hahn protesting that although he and his wife have been married over thirty years, he finds it utterly impossible to get along with her, as she is cruel to him and beats him unmercifully.

Parliament Unchanged.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—With the exception of a few personal changes, the new house of commons will be the same as the old. If the results in six districts, yet to be declared, repeated the election of January, the old predominant parties, the Liberals and Unionists, will have four members and one member less respectively than they did in the late parliament, making the exactly equal. If the speaker, who is elected as a Unionist, is excluded.

WOULD CUT ESTIMATES

Congressman Want Committee
to Pass Expenditures.

HOPES TO USE THE PRUNE

Kansas Representative Offers Measure
to Limit Appropriations to
Amount Actually in Sight in the
Way of Revenues.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—For the purpose of limiting appropriations by congress to the amount actually in sight in the way of government revenues, Representative Sherry, of Kansas, introduced a resolution in the house today providing for a committee on estimates and expenditures.

The committee, as proposed by Mr. Sherry, is to be in substance a budget committee which will consider the amount of available revenue, apportion it amongst the various branches and departments of the government and systematically prune down estimates until they come within the available funds.

The Sherry resolution provides for the committee to include the chairman, four ranking members and three ranking minority members respectively of the ways and means committee, and the appropriations committee; and the chairman and one ranking minority member each, from the other committees which pass upon appropriation bills. In this way all committees having to do with raising or apportioning revenues, would have representation on the budget committee.

They are roaming in the gloaming "By this time," said Mr. Sherry, "I hope to provide a method whereby the house may be able to effect a reduction in the total annual appropriation. To my mind, it is humiliating to representatives that the country should be depended upon and look to the activities of the President for a curtailment of governmental expenditures."

The resolution was sent to the house committee on rules for consideration. A budget committee along somewhat similar lines, known as the committee on public expenditures, was created by the senate two years ago, but it has not actually taken up the work of passing on all congressional appropriations.

TAFT DECLARES NO REASON FOR SCARE

President Talks on Country's
Defense Before the Inter-
national Peace Convention.

NOT REACHED POINT OF IMPOSSIBLE WAR

Chief Executive Says While Recent
Sensation Was Uncalled For, the
United States Should Proceed to
Properly Fortify, and Recommends
Improvement in the Militia.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—President Taft, addressing the closing banquet tonight of the American Society for Judicial Settlement of International Disputes, deplored "the so-called war scare which has furnished pabulum for the newspapers during the last few days." He declared that there is not the slightest reason for such a sensation, because "we are at peace with all the nations of the world and quite likely to remain so."

He said his purpose in outlining the preparedness of the United States for war "at a peace meeting" was to show by contrast the great worthiness of the movement for a permanent court of arbitral justice and universal peace.

The president summarized the condition of the national defenses and urged that a policy of "wise military preparation" be pursued.

Urges Retention of Army.

He urged the retention of the present regular army, the improvement of the national militia, the passage of the pending volunteer bill to go into operation should war be declared, and the passage of a law now before congress providing for a force of additional officers who would be "able in times of peace to render efficient service in drilling the militia of the states" and finally the accumulation of guns and ammunition "to equip and arm the force we could collect under our colors in an emergency."

War Not Impossible.

Declaring that the country has not reached a point where war is impossible, he cited the Panama canal question. He said:

"Take thus the question of the Panama canal. We have a property which, when completed, would be worth \$400,000,000, at least it will cost us that. It has been built not to further the cause of the world's commerce, but also to bring our Eastern and Western seaboard closer together and to secure us the military benefit enabling our naval fleet to pass quickly from one ocean to the other. Now the works of the canal are of such a character that a war vessel might easily put the canal out of commission."

Have Right to Fortify.
"We are authorized to police the canal and protect it and we have the treaty right to erect fortifications there. Fortifications are the best and most secure method of protecting that canal against the attack of some irresponsible nation or armed force."

"It is said that we could neutralize the canal and, by inducing all nations to agree not to attack the canal, secure its immunity from injury. But the trouble is that the nations are quite as likely as men to violate their obligations under great stress like that of war."

The president asserted, however, that the best method of ultimately securing disarmament among nations was the establishment of an international court and the development of a code of international equity.

Conference Closes.

The conference closed tonight with a banquet addressed by President Taft and a number of other distinguished speakers.

Gen. Stewart L. Woodruff, United States ambassador to Spain, was the toastmaster.

Besides a speech by President Taft, others were made by the French ambassador, Joseph Choate, Major Gen. Frederick D. Grant, Richard Bartholdi, Martin W. Littleton, Thomas Nelson Page and Bourke Cockran. The banquet concluded a three days program of speeches principally on the question of the establishment of a permanent court of arbitral justice.

The general trend of the discussion was toward the abolition of war, an ideal for which Andrew Carnegie has just donated \$11,500,000 to help realize.

Officers Elected.

Just before the closing session adjourned at noon today, President Taft was re-elected honorary president and John Hayes Hammond was elected president. Governor-elect Simon E. Baldwin, of Connecticut, vice-president; Theodore Mart, of Baltimore, secretary; J. G. Schmidtsch, Cincinnati, treasurer.
The executive committee: H. B. McParland, of Washington, and W. W. Wiffloughby, of Baltimore, James

Brown Scott, of Washington, the retiring president of the society.

"Arbitration has failed not only as a means of settling international disputes, but in adjusting the differences of capital and labor," declared Dr. Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard University, who addressed the conference today.

"If the contending parties knew before hand that a court of justice would examine their claims and render a judicial decision, not a compromise," asserted Dr. Eliot, "we would have fewer industrial wars."

Disagree on Arbitration.

Oscar T. Crosby, of Warrenton, Va., president of the world's peace federation, took issue with Dr. Eliot as to the need of a strictly judicial court for international disputes. He declared that he did not believe arbitration defective, but that at the present time it was the means to be used in averting war by limiting armament of nations.

William Dudley Pohlke, president of the National Municipal League, defended Dr. Eliot's remarks.

"Mankind longs for lost troubled days and moves toward, this not inaccessible goal," predicted M. Jussérad, the French ambassador, at the banquet tonight in his theme, "Is peace a progress? Is the disappearance of war a sign of improvement or decay?"

International Lunacy.

International lunacy was the way in which W. Bourke Cockran, former representative from New York, referred to the competition between the nations of the world to outdo each other in the strength of their naval armaments. He declared that it was a waste of money which was keeping the nations poor and was the principal cause of the high cost of living.

Major Gen. Frederick D. Grant, son of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, whose words, "Let us have peace," have been closely associated with his military achievements, read a letter written by President Grant in 1879 to the Universal Peace Union, in which he suggested a permanent court of arbitration, the development of which is one of the chief objects of the conference.

LEADS FIGHT AGAINST INCREASE IN SALARIES

Arkansas Congressman Objects
to Portions in Legislative
and Judicial Bill.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—Owing to the fact that Representative Macon, of Arkansas, made a point of order today against every increase of salary, no matter how small, provided for in the legislative executive and judicial bill, slow progress was made in the house where the bill was under discussion during almost the entire day.

Efforts were made to dislodge Mr. Macon from his attitude of insisting on economy at every turn of the bill, but without result. Representative Livingstone, of Georgia, spoke in a humorous vein against Mr. Macon's attitude, declaring that some members, if they could live long enough would be legislating in the same old rut as was followed a hundred years ago. He pleaded for the house to have some confidence in the work of its appropriations committee. The various savings brought about by Mr. Macon's objections amounted to a few thousands of dollars as compared with more than \$35,000,000 carried in the bill.

Several more legislative days probably will be required to finish the bill which already has occupied two days.

53 Orphaned Babies on Train.

HOUSTON, TEXAS, Dec. 17.—The train from New York, bearing 53 orphaned and foundling babies, reached Houston today. The demand for the tiny folk proved so strong that the quota for this city was speedily exhausted and the supply destined for San Antonio narrowly missing confiscation.

Abbot Primate at Savannah.

(By Associated Press.)
SAVANNAH, GA., Dec. 17.—Right Rev. Hildebrand D. Hemphill, O. S. B., D. D., of Rome, Italy, abbot primate of the entire Benedictine order of the world, reached this city today to inspect the property of the Benedictine order in Savannah. He leaves on Monday for Belmont Abbey, N. C.

Stock Exchange Firm Falls.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The suspension of the stock exchange firm of Judson & Judson was announced on the floor of the exchange today. Lack of business is generally understood to be the cause of the failure. The liabilities are about \$100,000. The firm was formed in 1901 and is composed of A. M. Judson, C. Y. Judson and Percy W. Sherman.

Former Minister Sentenced.

(By Associated Press.)
COPENHAGEN, Dec. 17.—Former Minister of Justice P. A. Auberti, the revelation of whose banking frauds in the fall of 1908 scandalized the country, was sentenced today to eight years penal servitude. Auberti suffered a physical collapse in March, 1909, while awaiting trial and was removed to a hospital, where he remained until recently restored to face his accusers.

MAY CAUSE CHANGE IN ENDORSEMENTS

Ohio Circuit Court Establishes
Precedent in Trust Com-
pany's Case.

BECOMES LIABLE FOR MERELY IDENTIFYING

Matter Will Be Carried to the Higher
Tribunals and Should Decision
Stand Will Affect All Such Finan-
cial Institutions in the United
States—Lower Court Reversed.

(By Associated Press.)

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 17.—The Circuit Court of the First Ohio district, by reversing the case of Charles I. Dreyfus against the Union Savings Bank & Trust Company, today established a precedent which may cause every trust company in the United States to change the endorsement which it is customary to place on bonds. Dreyfus received from Holzman & Co., who afterwards failed, six bonds endorsed by the Union Savings Bank & Trust Company, as follows:

"It is hereby certified that this bond is one of the series of bonds described in the mortgage or deed of trust within mentioned."

If the decision stands the trust company becomes liable for merely identifying by endorsement the security mentioned in the deed of trust. The Union Savings Bank & Trust Company realizing that this is a test case which will affect trust companies throughout the country, are interested, and will carry the matter to the higher courts.

FIREMAN FATALLY HURT; ENGINEER IS INJURED

Train Leaving Norfolk on Virginian
Railway Leaves Track and is
Wrecked.

(By Associated Press.)

NORFOLK, VA., Dec. 17.—In a wreck on the Virginian Railway at Algon early today, Fireman Midgett, of train No. 14, enroute for this city from Roanoke, was so badly injured that he died later in the day and Engineer C. G. Bickford, was seriously hurt.

The locomotive of the train, which was running at 30 miles an hour, jumped the track and completely overturned. The baggage car and one coach left the rails but the Pullman coach remained on the track. The passengers were badly shaken up but none injured.

DARE ANYONE AID VICTIM.

Alabama Militia Called Out to Break
Up Negro Organization.

LUVERNE, ALA., Dec. 17.—The local military company has been called to arms and may be sent to the country near here to break up an organization of negroes. A negro, Reed Salter, killed Jake Shirley and dangerously wounded his father late this afternoon. Shortly after the shooting a physician started to the scene. He was met by white men, telling him not to go near the Shirley home as the negroes had organized and threatened to kill the first man who attempted to aid the elder Shirley.

The local militia was immediately ordered out. The sheriff and several deputies have gone to the scene and on the outcome of their trip depends whether the soldiers will be sent.

MARRIED ON AUTOMOBILE.

Couple Weds While Traveling at
Rapid Rate.

(By Associated Press.)
BRISTOL, TENN., Dec. 17.—Thomas Jones Llewellyn, of the department of commerce and labor at Washington, and Mrs. Lucinda Hayes, of Fayetteville, Tenn., were married here today by Rev. J. Randall Harris, of Bristol, while the party was speeding at a rate of nearly a mile a minute in an automobile. The couple were childhood friends at Hastings, N. H.

Flies 9,464 Feet High.

(By Associated Press.)
MEMPHIS, TENN., Dec. 17.—John B. Moisant reached his highest altitude today, 9,464 feet, if his barograph read true. In the United States Armstrong Drexel and Ralph Johnson alone eclipsed this distance and it is within 1,125 feet of the world's record established by M. Legagneux, at Pau several weeks ago.

Million Dollars For Orphans.

SAVANNAH, GA., Dec. 17.—In the will of John W. Hunt, formerly of Savannah, who died last Sunday at Dallas, Tex., is a bequest of \$1,200,000 to be applied in establishing an orphan's home in Georgia. He made the bulk of his fortune here in naval stores.

MODIFIES STRENUOUS EXERCISE FOR OFFICERS

Naval Rules Prescribed by Roosevelt
Are Greatly Changed by Sec-
retary Meyer.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—The strenuous exercise for naval officers prescribed under the Roosevelt administration has fallen in its purpose in the adoption by Secretary of the Navy Meyer in a general order which was issued today greatly modifying the severity of the physical tests.

Under the old order every officer of the navy and marine corps was required to walk fifty miles within three days, every three months actual walking time to be within 20 hours total.

They might ride one hundred miles on a bicycle within three consecutive days, the actual riding time to be within fifteen hours; or he might ride a horse ninety miles within three days, actually riding 7 1/2 hours on each of two days and six hours on one day.

The bicycle and horseback rides have been abandoned and a simple walking test established. The walk is to be of 25 miles in two consecutive days, five consecutive hours being followed for each day, and the walk for each day 3 1/2 miles not to be completed in less than four hours. In the tropics the distance walked and time required was two-thirds of these above named.

TAFT APPOINTS NEGRO.

Nominates Colored Man as Collector
of Revenue at Honolulu.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—President Taft today sent to the senate the nomination of Charles A. Cottrell, of Toledo, to be collector of internal revenue at Honolulu, Hawaii. Cottrell is a negro and his appointment was forecasted from the White House just prior to the last election. A protest from Honolulu that a resident of that city should be appointed was unheeded.

Phonographic Music at Funeral.

(By Associated Press.)
LEXINGTON, KY., Dec. 17.—Phonographic music today took the place of singers at the funeral here today of Mrs. Byron McClelland, widow of a widely known turkman and one of the wealthiest women in the South. While giving Mrs. McClelland heard a phonographic record of sacred music by a quartet of noted singers and she requested that the machine be used at her funeral. The phonograph furnished the only music at the services.

LORIMER WHITEWASHED

Illinois Senator is Given Clean
Bill of Health.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Investigating Body Finds the Law-
maker Was Not Connected With
the Bribery Charges in Legislature
Electing Him.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—Senator Lorimer, of Illinois, was given a clean bill of health today by the sub-committee of the senate committee on privileges and elections, which investigated charges of bribery against his election to succeed Senator Hopkins. The report was made to the full committee on privileges and elections, which then adjourned until Tuesday to give the members opportunity to study the evidence and the sub-committee report.

Evidence that there was money passed between certain members of the Illinois legislature was not ignored by the sub-committee, but it was declared that if the votes of members charged either with receiving or paying money had been eliminated Mr. Lorimer still would have a majority of three votes.

The sub-committee was a unite in asserting that the evidence did not show that Mr. Lorimer had been connected with the alleged distribution of a "jack-pot" or any money to influence the legislature in the preference of himself to the senatorship. The sub-committee was composed of Senators Burrows, Hollister, Canby, Heyburn, Frazier, Paynter and Johnson. Of the senators, Messrs. Buckley, Frazier and Johnson did not meet with the full committee today, but their names were attached to the report. It is said the report will be made to the senate next Tuesday.

Opposes House of Correction.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—At the instance of Senator Dupont, the senate today adopted a resolution calling upon the commissioners of the District of Columbia as to whether a house of correction is to be located near Mr. Vernon. Mr. Dupont expressed the opinion that public opinion throughout the country will be shocked by the establishment of criminal institutions in proximity to the home estate of George Washington.

Will Vote in January.

(By Associated Press.)

LIQUOR ELECTION CONTEST ENTERED

Anti-Saloon League Files Peti-
tion in the Corporation Court
of Lynchburg.

SWEEPING ALLEGATIONS OF IRREGULARITIES MADE

Majority of Eighty-five "Wets" in Re-
cent Local Option Fight in the Hill
City is Attacked by the "Drys."
Claim Illegal Registration and Vot-
ing—May Affect Previous Balloting.

(By Associated Press.)

LYNCHBURG, VA., Dec. 17.—In the Corporation Court today the petition of the Lynchburg Anti-Saloon League, contesting the result of the recent election here, was filed by attorneys from the petitioners, George E. Caslake and Thomas Whitehead, of this city, and Judge A. A. Phlegar, of Bristol.

The election, it will be recalled, gave the "wets" a majority of eighty-five votes, after the city had voted "dry" two years before. The petition, as filed, is a document of much length, covering seven typewritten pages of legal cap, and the election details are given at much length.

Sweeping Allegations.

Sweeping allegations of irregularities are made. Thomas J. O'Brien, United States commissioner, and A. B. Percy, United States jury commissioner, are disqualified on account of their federal positions, the petition says. Also that the eighty-four majority for the "wets" in the two precincts in which the "commissioners" served should be thrown out.

May Be Far-Reaching.

The belief is expressed that practically the entire registration of the city since 1904 has been illegal, on account of alleged failure of the registrars to certify their registrations before the Corporation Court.

Three persons are alleged to have voted who were not registered while 111 are claimed to have balloted in precincts in which they did not reside.

ENGINEER SCALDED.

Passenger Train from Richmond Side-
swipes an Engine.

PETERSBURG, Dec. 17.—The mid-night passenger train from Richmond on the Atlantic Coast Line railroad narrowly missed a serious collision on its arrival in the Petersburg yards shortly after 12 o'clock this morning. A yard engine run by Engineer W. B. Spiers had moved from the main to a side track to give the passenger train right of way, but it had not gone sufficiently far to prevent a side swipe of its tender by the passenger engine.

Engineer Spiers was thrown from his seat and severely scalded, and the tender was practically derailed.

The passengers on the incoming train were considerably shaken up by the jar, but none of them was hurt.

MAYOR RESIGNS.

Chief Executive of Barton Heights
Quits Office.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 17.—Dr. Boshier W. Miller, who succeeded the late John E. Rose as mayor of Barton Heights, resigned at a meeting of the council last night. His resignation was reluctantly accepted and the president of the council, A. W. Marienstien, will act as mayor until the regular election which takes place next Wednesday night.

Dr. Miller has made a popular and progressive leader and his resignation is greatly regretted.

The reason he assigned for his resignation is a pressure of business in his profession and college work.

Zero Weather in Mountains.

(By Associated Press.)
WINCHESTER, VA., Dec. 17.—Zero weather prevails in northern Virginia for the first time in several years. At Winchester the thermometer registers 2 degrees above zero. Reports from the mountains of western Frederick county report zero and below. A foot of snow covers the ground and all streams are frozen over.

Will Vote in January.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17.—A vote in the house by January 15 on the fight between New Orleans and San Francisco for the Exposition to celebrate the Panama Canal opening in 1915, was made possible by an understanding reached by the house committee on rules today.